

IV. REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for extending courtesy of a telephone interview on April 14, 2004. During this interview it was agreed that the reference to "Kai" on page 8 of the last office action should be to "Sonoda".

The present invention is an ACD for low end products with a high degree of reliability. To achieve this, both a validation code is added to the video signal if it does not match a selected type of image (or printing is stopped) and the video signal is invalidated if there is such a match (see page 10, lines 9-11) as now recited in the independent claims.

Sonoda does not show taking both of these actions. Thus it will not be as reliable. Therefore the rejection of claims 1-3, 6-11, 13-15, 17-19, 20, 23, 25-27 and 29 under 35 USC 102 on Sonoda should be withdrawn.

Further, since this feature is not suggested by Sonoda, these claims are not obvious over it.

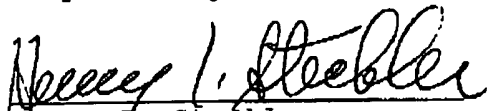
Similarly Roller does not show this concept, and thus combining it with Sonoda does not result in the present invention. Therefore the rejection of claims 4, 5, 21 and 22 under 35 USC 103 on this combination of references should be withdrawn.

For all of the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now present in the application are clearly novel and patentable over the prior art of record, and are in proper form for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested. Should

any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment for any fees associated with this communication or credit any over payment to Deposit Account No. 24-0037.

Respectfully submitted,


Henry J. Steckler
Reg. No. 24,139

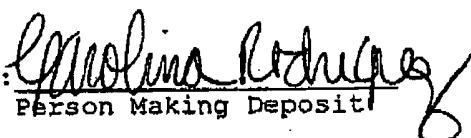
April 28, 2004
Date

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